(b) Total number of licenses issued in Barabanki Divisions I & II during the current year (upto 9.12.1991) are 9019.

[*English*]

Current Account Deficit

3692. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the current account deficit for 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) the reasons for sharp rise in the current account deficit for the year 1990-91;

(c) the amount of capital account and borrowings from IMF during 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(d) the amount of net invisible receipts for 1989-90 and 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). The sharp rise in the current account deficit during 1990-91 was the result of a combination of adverse factors which include deceleration in export growth as a result of recessionary conditions in the industrialised countries and the economic disruption in the Eastern Europe; the Gulf cnsis which set-in in August 1990 leading to a sharp escalation in POL import bill, partial loss of export markets in West Asia and foreign exchange expenditure incurred in repatriation of Indian workers from the affected zone in the West Asia and; uncertain and disturbed situation in the domestic polity during most of the 1990-91 which resulted in a sharp fall in invisible receipts in the form of private remittances, travel and tourism etc. The current account deficit, net invisible receipts, capital account (net) and net borrowings from the IMF during 1989-90 and 1990-91 were as indicated in the Table below:

(Rs. crores)

	1989-90	*1990-91*
Current account (net)	-10391	-13088
Invisibles* (net)	2541	2054
Capital Account (net)	10341	8617
IMF (net)	1-460	2178

* includes official transfer (net)

Letting Out of Units and Sections of Ordnance Factories to Private Sector

3693. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ordnance Factories Board propose to let out some of the section and units in various Ordnance Factories to some private manufacturing units;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any working modalities have been worked out in this regard; and

(d) if so, the impact of these changes on the cost of the defence supplies and promotional avenues of the staff?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

Extension of MRTP Act to Cover Services Sector and Co-Operatives

3694. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for extending the ambit of the Moncpolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act to cover the Services Sector and Co-operatives; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAGALAM): (a) and (b). The MRTP Act, 1969, already applies to the 'Services' sector as defined in Section 2(r) of the Act. The Act has also been extended to Co-operative Societies vide Notification GSR No.605 (E) dated 27th September, 1991 issued under Section 3 of the Act.

Economic Offences

3695. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have declared some economic offences as criminal offences; and

(b) if so, the details of such offences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Provision has been made for prosecution in a court of law for various economic offences such as those specified in Chapter XXII of the Income Tax Act, Chapter VIII of the Wealth Tax Act, section 9 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, section 135 of the Customs Act and section 56 of FERA, etc.

Export Potential of Bihar

3696. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the Export Potential of Bihar;

(b) if so, the names of the exportable items in Bihar; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost exports of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir. A study was conducted by the Trade Development Authority in 1988.

(b) Major non-engineering product groups identified for export are:

Handlooms - Silk and Cotton; leather manufactures; handicrafts; and processed fruits;

(c) The Government of Bihar and Bihar Chamber of Commerce are taking action on the study.